



Heather Bolejack,
Executive Director
Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

As youngest woman directing a state agency in the Daniels Administration, Heather Bolejack is currently the Executive Director of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. (“ICJI”) ICJI administers over \$60 million in federal funding as the designated state administering agency. As the Executive Director, Heather is responsible for leading statewide public policy, strategic planning, research and evaluation, criminal justice information sharing and administration of funding to promote criminal justice, juvenile justice, traffic safety and victims services initiatives throughout Indiana. Prior to being appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels, she was an attorney at Ice Miller Law Firm. Heather was recently honored with a “Torchbearer Award” from the Indiana Commission for Women in the public safety category for her work at ICJI to make Indiana a safer place. The “Torchbearer Award” is the highest honor Indiana bestows upon women.

Since taking on the role of Executive Director in April 2005, Governor Mitch Daniels asked Heather to focus the majority of ICJI’s efforts on his initiatives to stop the spread of meth in Indiana. Under her leadership, Indiana rolled out 8,000 Meth Watch kits to retailers statewide. In December, Indiana hosted the Midwestern Governors Association Regional Meth Summit in Indianapolis with key leaders from 13 Midwest states. Heather traveled to Washington, D.C. last year to secure Indiana’s role as the host of the event and supervised the coordination of this gathering of Governors and key administration leaders to share best practices in the fight against Meth. Heather leads the coordinated work of the Governor’s Meth Free Indiana Coalition, which now involves more than 30 organizations, government agencies and departments and community-based groups. This highly active group is charged with assisting Governor Daniels in combating what has been nicknamed the “Plague of Indiana” as a result of the destruction

Heather is a strong advocate for women and children. In 2005, she participated in a highly visible public service campaign, which was broadcast on WTHR-TV in Indianapolis, Indiana about domestic violence known as “Shattering the Silence.” Heather also launched a Young Women’s Empowerment Conference last fall that attracted 200 young women to learn life skills to empower them to have healthy relationships, be independent and protect themselves from domestic violence.

She is a member of Sentencing Study Policy Committee; Forensic Diversion Committee; Transition from Prison to Community Advisory Council; Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant Advisory Council; and Midwest Governors Association Meth Working Group.

She is a graduate from The Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series, Class of 2004-2005 and was featured in Who’s Who in Black Indianapolis for 2003-2004 & 2004-2005. Heather was selected as a Lugar Scholar, which is awarded to the top minority student in Indiana. Currently she serves as a Board Member on the Fund for Hoosier Excellence (Senator Richard Lugar Scholarship) and is a member of the Scholarship Selection Committee. Heather has written numerous editorials for the news media and was often published as a featured Monthly Opinion Editorial Columnist for *The Indianapolis Star*. She is a former Board Member of Children’s Bureau of Indianapolis and Center for Leadership Development Alumnus.

A graduate of the Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis, Heather received the Zazas Award, which is a full academic merit scholarship and served as the Chief Justice of Moot Court. She is a graduate of Butler University, with high honors as a double major in Journalism and Spanish.

Heather is married to Corey Smith and they have two children.